



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

THE ADMINISTRATOR

DEC 22 1976

Honorable Coleman A. Young
Mayor
City of Detroit
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Mayor Young:

I am pleased to inform you that the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) has made a decision in principle to finance the installation of a Downtown People Mover (DPM) system in Detroit.

As you know, we have been reviewing the applications of the eleven finalist cities seeking such grants under a nationwide competitive selection, and Detroit has been one of those cities. However, Detroit's application must be viewed in the context of Secretary Coleman's letter to you and Governor Milliken, dated October 19, 1976, which announced a commitment in principle of \$600 million for transportation improvements in the Detroit metropolitan area.

In light of that separate commitment, and in view of our determination that a DPM could play a key role in the city's revitalization efforts, we have decided to go forward with a DPM in Detroit apart from the nation-wide competition. As I made clear during my November 22-23, 1976 visit to Detroit, implementing grants for the Detroit DPM will be made from within the \$600 million funding reservation. However, it will not be necessary for private investments on a dollar-for-dollar matching basis to be secured before the DPM system is implemented, provided that the total \$600 million private commitment called for in the Secretary's letter is later secured.

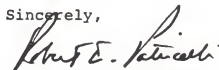
I must emphasize that until all legal and environmental requirements have been met, we cannot provide funding beyond the preliminary engineering and environmental analysis stages. Nonetheless, this action does reflect an UMTA commitment in principle subject to satisfaction of such requirements.

Further, the specific alignment, function and cost of the DPM should be held open pending completion of the alternatives analysis study now going forward in the metropolitan area. One alternative being considered in that connection is an expansion of the pending DPM proposal to perform broader transportation tasks in the central area. Thus, we ask that preliminary engineering of specific alignments and lengths of the DPM be deferred pending the results of the alternatives analysis which are expected to be available shortly.

While your proposal will be funded outside of the nationwide DPM competition, we do wish you to follow the technical and program requirements of that competition which have been established to safeguard the deployment of this new technology. You may now submit a capital grant application following the guidelines of our DPM Program Plan.

We are looking forward to working with you in carrying out this innovative and nationally important project. Should you have any questions concerning your next steps, please do not hesitate to call Mr. Charles H. Graves, Director, Office of Planning Assistance, at (202)426-2360.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Patricelli

cc: Honorable William G. Milliken
Governor

Mr. Thomas Turner
Chairman, Southeastern Michigan
Transportation Authority

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